



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Hammersmith Gardens, Houghton Regis, LU5 5RG

Telephone: 01582

862456

Fax: 01582

863870

E:mail: admin@stvincentshr.org

Website: www.stvincentshr.org

Head Teacher: Mrs K Armstrong

RE NEWSLETTER

October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Let me begin my first RE newsletter by thanking you for the welcome that the St Vincent's school and parish community have given me since I began my time here in September. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know all the members of our communities and hope to get to meet and know more of you as the year progresses.

We have had a busy start to our academic year with the induction of our new Faith Ambassadors in years 1 to 6. Congratulations to the following children who will have such an important role within our school community;

Year 6 Mercia and Ella
Year 5 Takara and Shannon
Year 4 Hanna and Megan
Year 3 Dinusha and Kerry-Leigh
Year 2 Milena and Benjamin
Year 1 Thomas and Emilia

We have not only had our first meeting together along with our Chaplaincy Leader, Mrs Wright, but Mrs Osborne and I had the honour attending the Diocesan Mass on 11th October with the Faith Ambassadors who represented our school with dignity and pride.

Along with Mrs Wright the Faith Ambassadors will be holding a prayer group meeting on a Monday lunchtime. One of the things that we decided to do in our first meeting was to work with a buddy system so for example Mercia and Thomas will be working together to plan and present our first prayer gathering (of course along with Mrs Wright). I look forward to working with the children to provide a quiet and reflective environment for these prayer group meetings.

As you move around the school you will notice a number of new display boards up. Outside Mrs Armstrong's office we are celebrating our weekly Faith Ambassador award winners and they will then be moved to a display board adjoining the year 1 and 2 classrooms so that we can see over the entire year how the children are living out their faith. On the way into our hall we now have a display to celebrate all the children who are leaders across our school and the focus of this is how they are showing the value we are focusing on each term. This term we are exploring love and if you take the opportunity to read the board you will see the way each of these leaders is showing our school community love. It would be a great opportunity to discuss and share explicitly the value of love at home.



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Of course in our classrooms we have been busy learning too. We each began by exploring our mission statement "Jesus, be the centre of our lives". Each class took the opportunity to discuss what it meant to us and how we are able to live this out each day. We then moved onto to learning about ourselves and our roles within the Church the younger children explored the idea that God loves each of us individually and the older children looked at how we can live out that love God shows us. We are currently discovering the sacraments of initiation within the Church, Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and Holy Orders, each class looking at different aspects of each. Please see the school website for the overview of this year's curriculum topics.

We have also been lucky enough to have CAFOD join us for an assembly and workshops for years 3 to 6 to support all that we are doing in class and throughout the school. The focus of their assembly was raising awareness for the work they are doing providing water for communities across Africa. To follow in and support this work we held our "Brighten Up" non-uniform day on Friday 18th October.

Finally, we have also been celebrating the Eucharist together too. We all came together to celebrate our Feast day on 27th September with years 3 to 6 going to Mass and the younger children gathering in prayer together as well. On the topic of Eucharist as you will be aware each week on a Thursday at 10am a different class is joining and in fact leading the parish celebration of the Eucharist. The children have taken on the responsibility of writing the Prayers of the Faithful as well as helping to choose the readings and hymns. This allows them to have a greater connection to the celebration. Let me take this opportunity to invite you to join us whenever you are able, the office is emailing the parents of the class attending each week but you are of course welcome to join us whenever you are able.

As we move toward the celebration of Our Saviours birth at Christmas I encourage you to pray with your children and to remember that Jesus is at the centre of all our lives. I will share with you our plans for the celebrations of Christmas closer to the time. In the meantime, thank you again for your warm welcome.

May the blessings of Christ be with each of you.

Miss Azzopardi
RE Lead